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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S) : Zhigang Fan  
TITLE : IMAGE TYPE CLASSIFICATION USING COLOR DISCRETENESS FEATURES  
APPLICATION NO. : 10/040,692  
FILED : January 7, 2002  
CONFIRMATION NO. : 4999  
EXAMINER : Amir Alavi  
ART UNIT : 2621  
LAST OFFICE ACTION : November 1, 2004  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : A1648  
XERZ 2 00458

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER

The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Patent Applications:

<u>U.S. Serial No.</u>	<u>Atty. Docket</u>
09/966,030	XERZ 2 00433
09/965,922	XERZ 2 00435
09/965,880	XERZ 2 00456
10/040,693	XERZ 2 00459

The subject matter contained in each of these co-pending U.S. Patent Applications is related to the above-identified application, and thus may be relevant to the subject matter of the instant application.

These co-pending applications are not to be construed as prior art. By bringing these co-pending application to the attention of the Examiner, the Applicant does **NOT** waive any confidentiality concerning these co-pending applications. 35 U.S.C. 122 (1988); see Medical Laboratory Automation Inc. v. Labcon Inc., 500 F.Supp. 54, 58 n.5 (N.D. Ill. 1980), aff'd, 670 F.2d 671 (7th Cir. 1981). Furthermore, if said co-pending

applications should not mature into a patent, said co-pending applications should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 122 (1988) and 37 C.F.R. 1.14.

Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

Respectfully submitted,

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27 December 2004

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